Local groups rock, thrash crowd at Localpalooza

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Staff Writer

Inspired by the success of Lalapalooza, Localpalooza gave Lafayette-area bands a chance to demonstrate their talent to local music enthusiasts. The nine-hour show at Grant Street Dancehall on Sunday had something to offer everyone, regardless of musical preference.

The doors opened at 1 p.m. People sat on the stage smoking cigarettes and talking. While the hemp booths present at the original concerts were absent, Grant Street offered free red beans and rice and dollar Dixie longnecks. The crowd quickly snapped up Localpalooza T-shirts designed by Lafayette artist and USL student Dana Smith.

The show began at 2 p.m. with **Heads of State** performing their own brand of punk/grunge rock as people slowly began to flow into the concert hall. The five musicians, together for only three months, played an original song to open their set, then mixed cover songs by groups ranging from Mudhoney to Creedence Clearwater Revival. They also performed some autobiographical originals such as "Amnesia."

"We went to see the Jesus Lizard in concert, and they said I was slam dancing," related bassist Bennie Hasha about the tune. "Somebody dropped me on my head, and I didn't recognize anyone."

The grunge sound continued as the trio **Wingnut** took the stage. Most of their songs were covers ranging from Body Count to Screaming Trees. From their first Nirvana cover to the set-ending "Why Go?" by Pearl Jam, Wingnut pumped up the audience with exuberance and raw energy.

Lead singer and bassist Troy Oubre said, "They (Grant Street) took the reputation of Lalapalooza with the name. Now all we have to do is live up to it. With this, I feel the Lafayette music scene is right around the corner."

Hand Bob the Spoon, one of the most surprising groups of the evening, slowed the pace slightly as the third act. Lead singer April Fallon's strong, melodic vocals led the four-piece group through a spirited, dynamic set. The band's talent for writing was evident in the quality of the original works they played. Their set included an alternative version of the Ozark Mountain Daredevil's "Jackie Blue."

"We try to limit ourselves to two or three covers," said drummer Chad Dupre. "Most of our stuff is original because April and Carl (Anthony) are good songwriters."

The fourth band, **Extension**, was a reminiscent of the bands found at high school dances: tight, but unoriginal. The band began their set with Duran Duran's "Rio." It only got worse as they attempted a song by Primus, then followed by desecrating Alice in Chains' "Would?" Even their remakes weren't unique, as they redid Simon and Garfunkel's "Mrs. Robinson" a lá Lemonheads. While the group itself had a pretty good sound, the members should write some songs of their own and develop as a group.

Sixty cases of Dixie beer bought for the event were consumed before the four-man band **Dump Junction** made its way to the forefront. They were, by far, the most Louisiana-sounding group at Localpalooza, with lead singer Seth Touchet playing harmonica to kick off the first song of the set. The band had an honest and unpretentious sound that floated through the dancehall on ballads like "Sunny Blue Day" and slammed the back walls with power tunes like "River of Tears."

While other bands tried to copy the Seattle sound, these guys showed a lot of originality by keeping to their roots of alternative Louisiana rock. Dump Junction played an original take of the Chickasaw Mudd Puppies' "Skyline to Skyline," the only cover during the entire set.

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Veterans of the show **True Man Posse** kicked of the next set. The four-man band played the Jimi Hendrix standard "Hey Joe" as frontman Walter Thibeaux picked the guitar with his teeth in the song's introduction. The crowd jammed to the heavy reggae beat as the Posse played some originals and extended versions of Bob Marley tunes "I Shot The Sheriff" and "Get Up, Stand Up."

"This is a good thing because you see a lot of new bands," said Thibeaux about the concert. "It doesn't matter if it's reggae, hard rock or heavy metal. It's not racial, we're all on the same level.

"This reminds me where I started," he added. "I wish everybody would have an open ear for good music and its message for the world. That's what we need— love and respect."

The music changed pace as the reggae set was overtaken by a brutal display of teen angst as **Full Hank** took the stage.

Stickers, decoupage and what looked like car stereo speakers sprouted from the oversized guitar speaker used by the three-man band's stocking-capped guitarist. The group sounded like a combination of Helmet and Nirvana, while some of the feedback rivaled distortion kings Sonic Youth. They had a strong set and were extremely tight, with the howling scream of the overdriven guitar being pushed by Thomas Couvillion's hyperkinetic bass riffs.

Late addition **R.I.P.** ended the festivities. They were switched into the lineup when rap duo Rage canceled. The drummer was encased in a caged drum set, the lead singer yelled something like "Rock and roll, Lafayette!" and the power metalists began thrashing. One of the guitarists experienced some sound problems during the first song, a Pantera cover. But the Pantera sound carried over into the rest of their explosive set as the problems were ironed out.

While there were a few sound problems and what appeared to be the excessively rough handling of one patron by the bouncers, the nine-hour musical event went as expected. Hopefully, Localpalooza will become an annual event as the music scene in Lafayette continues to expand.

If you missed Localpalooza, take heart, there are plenty of upcoming opportunities to catch the local music scene. Hand Bob the Spoon's debut cassette, *Utensil*, is on sale for $2 at local record stores. Tonight local acts Heads of State, Bubba Daddys, Full Hank and Fountainhead will perform at The Wall, a new concert hall located on Jefferson Street between the *Times of Acadiana* office and the now-defunct Bayou.

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selections from his collection and enjoy "fabulous cuisine" from 7-9 p.m.

On Sunday, Jan. 31, at 2:15 p.m. Ogden will conduct a guided tour of his collection which will be open to the general public. This will be the only tour given by Ogden himself.

On Saturday, March 6, the museum will sponsor a symposium titled *Art in the American South*, featuring presentations by Ogden; Paul Grootkerk, associate professor of Art History, Mississippi State University; William Gerdts, professor of Art History, City University of New York; and Estill Curtis Pennington, curator of Southern paintings, Morris Museum, Augusta, Ga.

Due to limited seating, individuals must register in advance for the symposium which will cost $35 per person. In addition, a gourmet luncheon will be served in the museum surrounded by the Ogden Collection for a fee of $15 per person. The deadline for the symposium and luncheon registration is March 3, and they may be attended together or separately if desired.

Guided group tours of *Art in the American South* are available weekdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Telephone the museum at 231-5326 two weeks in advance to schedule group tours. Educational packets are available for classroom teachers.

Viewing of the exhibition is free of charge to all USL students, faculty and staff as well as all students under the age of 18. All other viewers will be charged $2, except senior citizens (55 and up) who will be charged $1.

Individuals may view the collection during museum hours without appointment.

All of the events are open to the general public.

In addition, selections from the Sylvia and Warren Lowe Collection of Sarah Mary Taylor quilts will be exhibited at the University Art Museum Permanent Collection Building on Girard Park Drive concurrently with the Ogden collection from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays.

A collection of Dutch Kepler paintings is being displayed at the University Art Museum through March 19 as well.

Call the museum at 231-5326 weekdays for more information.

Jan.29-Feb. 4 Cajun Calendar

Friday • 29

MUSIC

Tune into **"The Fringe,"** an alternative rock program hosted by USL students from 1-4 p.m. on KRVS FM-88.7.

SPIRITUAL

A special **noon mass** is held at the Catholic Student Center where students witness their faith and prayers are offered for USL's athletes.

SPORTS

Men's Basketball: **USL vs. Massachusetts** in Amherst at 11 p.m. The game will be televised on ESPN.

THEATER

The USL Department of Performing Arts presents **Experimental Films** in the Fletcher Hall Media Center Room 134 at 8 p.m.

Saturday • 30

EVENT

The Annual **Miss Black and Gold Pageant** will begin at 7 p.m. in the ballroom of the Holiday Inn-Central. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased at the door or from Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity members. You may also contact Shawn Wilson at 231-6801.

MUSIC

Tune in to **"Jah-Mon,"** a Reggae program hosted by Tom Jubb from 11 p.m.-1 a.m. on KRVS 88.7 FM.

Sunday • 31

SPIRITUAL

The Catholic Student Center has a process for those interested in learning more about the **Catholic Church**. Contact Sister Audrey at 232-8742 for more information.

Wesley United Campus Ministry will hold a **dedication** at Lafayette's Habitat for Humanity House at 3 p.m. Afterwards, there will be a **choir rehearsal** at 5:30 p.m. before **chapel service** at 7 p.m.

Monday • 1

MEETING

Union Program Council's **Bon Temps Committee** will meet in the Union's River Room at 3 p.m.

Union Program Council's **Style Committee** will meet in the Union's Teche Room at 3 p.m.

Adult Learning Program presents **Let's Do Lunch** from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Derrick Room of the Student Union. Call 231-5433 for more information.

SPORTS

Women's Basketball: **USL vs. Western Kentucky** in the Cajundome at 7 p.m.

SPIRITUAL

The Catholic Student Center will hold a **Bible Study** from 2-3 p.m. in the Center's Conference Room located at the corner of St. Mary and McKinley. Contact Sister Audrey at 232-8742.

Wesley United Campus Ministry will sponsor an **Ignition Breakfast** at 7 a.m.

Wisdom Catholic Center is planning an alternative **Mardi Gras Spring Break** to Appalachia. A planning meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in the front lounge of the center. Contact Sister Carmen at 232-8742 for more information.

Campus Upreach will meet at 7 p.m. in the Acadian Room of the Union for singing, Bible study and fellowship.

Baptist Student Union will hold a **Bible study and fellowship** at 6:30 p.m. at the Baptist Student Union, located across Girard Hall.

EVENT

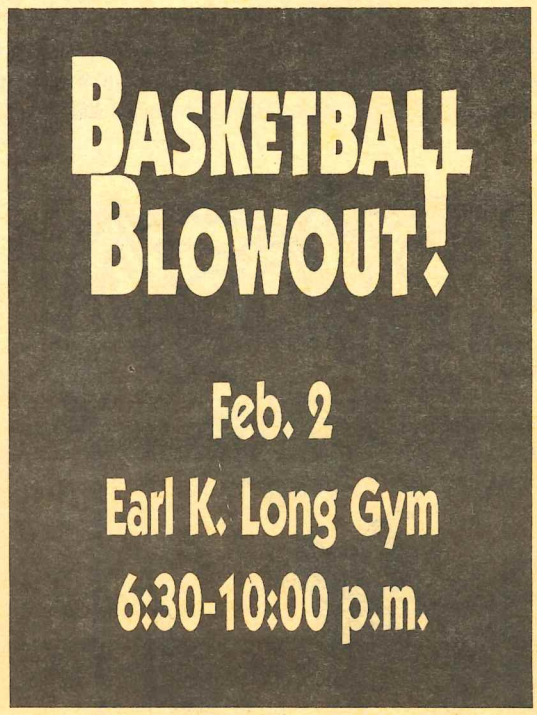
The College of Nursing will host a **career day** for all nursing and emergency medical health science majors in the Union Ballroom from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Bayou Bijou Theater presents **Zentropa**. Showtime is 7 p.m. Admission is $1.50 for students with IDs.

Tuesday • 2

EVENT-

Basketball Blowout will be rescheduled for tonight from 6:30-10 p.m. at Earl K. Long Gym. The pep rally will include a faculty vs. students mini-game, a three-point shoot-out, a slam dunk competition and an "ugliest tie" contest. Student organizations will compete in a spirit competition and can sign up in the UPC Office, Room 206 in the Student Union until 3 p.m. All students are invited to attend.



MEETING

S.P.E.A.K., the Society for the Promotion of Environmental Action and Knowledge, will meet in the Union's Forum Room at 5:30 p.m. Call 231-6401 or contact S.P.E.A.K. in Coronna Hall Room 206 for more information.

Union Program Council's **Entertainment Committee** will meet in the Forum Room at 3 p.m.

Union Program Council's **World Culture Committee** will meet in the Bayou Room at 3:30 p.m.

Union Program Council's **Spirit Committee** will meet in the UPC Office, Union Room 206 at 4 p.m.

Wednesday • 3

EVENT

Pi Sigma Epsilon's **Get Acquainted Night** will be held in the Union's Acadian Room at 7 p.m. All majors are welcome.

SPIRITUAL

Wesley United Campus Ministry will sponsor a **Good News Luncheon** at noon. The speaker will be USL President Ray Authement.

The Baptist Student Union will host a **Lunch Encounter**, featuring a meal and a message at noon in the BSU, located on Johnston Street across from Girard Hall.

Chi Alpha Campus Ministry will sponsor **Cafe Chi Alpha** at noon in the Chi Alpha House. Free meal with a message. Call 261-0028.

Wesley United Campus Ministry will host a **Serendipity Bible Study** at 7 p.m. Wesley is located across University Avenue from Martin Hall.

Thursday • 4

EVENT

Acadian Oaks Hospital will hold a free public forum for women to address depression, co-dependency, relationships and personal power issues from 7-8 p.m. Call 837-8787 or 1-800-722-4544 to register or for more information.

SPORTS

Women's Basketball: **USL vs. South Florida** in Tampa at 6:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball: **USL vs. South Alabama** in the Cajundome at 7:05 p.m.

MEETING

The **Association for Computing Machinery** will meet at 5 p.m. in Room 389 of the Conference Center. New members are encouraged to attend.

The Adult Learning Program presents **Let's Do Lunch** from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Derrick Room of the Student Union. Call 231-5433 for more information.

SPIRITUAL

Chi Alpha will meet at 7 p.m. in the Union Forum Room, downstairs across from the cafeteria. Call 261-0028.